

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Laurel Racetrack Paddock Inventory Number: AA-2321
Address: 3600 Laurel - Ft. Meade Road. City: Laurel Zip Code: 20724
County: Anne Arundel USGS Topographic Map: Laurel
Owner: Laurel Racing Association LP Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 86 Tax Map Number: 19 Tax Account ID Number: 03593300
Project: Proposed Improvements to Laurel Racetrack Agency: District. U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Baltimore
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐

District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ Yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ Yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Laurel Racetrack is a 231.8-acre parcel consisting of a grandstand, a paddock, a manager's dwelling, jockeys' quarters, a dirt racetrack, numerous horse stables, and other service buildings. The Paddock is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its architecture.

The paddock is located directly adjacent to the west wall of the grandstand. Constructed in the 1920s or early 1930s, this is one of the oldest, and best preserved structures at the Laurel Racetrack. It is a polygonal shaped building with one oversized story and clerestory, styled as a cupola. The clerestory windows are located below exposed rafters at the roofline and run in a continuous horizontal line around the building. The exterior of the first story has been clad with vinyl, but the clerestory section still displays its original wood and wood sash windows. The vinyl siding on the first story is no doubt reversible, and does not significantly diminish the historicity of the resource. The interior of the building shows the elaborate system of exposed, cantilevered ceiling trusses that support the structure and meet at the center of the building.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments:

Andrew Lewis
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Blum
Reviewer, NR Program

5/13/04
Date

5/13/04
Date

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Laurel Racetrack Paddock
(AA-2321)

Continuation Sheet No. 1

The paddock has 18 equal sides, each being about 20-feet long at the base. The outer section of the polygon consists of 8 ½ closed bays that serve as horse stalls. Each stall has five 4-pane awning style windows at about 8 feet above the ground. The exterior walls are of sawn 2x6-construction, with studs 3-feet apart clad with vertical boards covered with vinyl siding. The other 9 ½ sides are open.

The center of the interior contains a small enclosure for officials. It consists of vertical support members for the framework above.

The roof is supported by the 2x6 trusses that end in open rafter tails at the three tiered roof edges. The roof shows signs of sagging in the open area where support posts are not well supported by footers, but the structure is overall remarkably intact. The paddock possesses a high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling, and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, for its unique architecture and a representative of its type.

Prepared by: David C. Berg

Date Prepared: April 2004

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Laurel Racetrack Paddock
(AA-2321)

Continuation Sheet No. 2



Location Map, Laurel Racetrack, Paddock

Source: USGS, Laurel, MD Quadrangle

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Laurel Racetrack Paddock
(AA-2321)

Continuation Sheet No. 3

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BACKGROUND, LOOKING NORTHEAST.
- AA-2321-2 Paddock, EXTERIOR VIEW FROM GRANDSTAND, LOOKING
NORTHWEST.
- AA-2321-3 Paddock, EXTERIOR VIEW, LOOKING WEST.
- AA-2321-4 Paddock, INTERIOR VIEW SHOWING ENTRANCE AREA AND
FRAMING, LOOKING SOUTH.
- AA-2321-5 Paddock, INTERIOR VIEW SHOWING HORSE STALLS, CENTER
ISLAND, AND FRAMING, LOOKING NORTH.



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Laurel Race track Paddock

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

David C. Berg

April 2004

MD SHPO

Paddock, general exterior view with grandstand in background,
looking Northeast

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Laurel Racetrack Paddock

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

David C. Berg

April 2004

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Paddock, exterior view from grandstand, looking northwest

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Laurel Racetrack paddock

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

David C. Berg

April 2004

MD SHPO

Paddock, exterior view, looking west.

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Laurel Racetrack Paddock

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

David C. Berg

April 2004

MD SHPO

Paddock, interior view showing entrance area and framing,
looking South.

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Laurel Racetrack Paddock

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

David C. Berg

April 2004

MD SHPO

Paddock, interior view showing horse stalls, center island,
and framing, looking North,

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